as a pe-requisite for international cooperation. The Government has finalized and placed before Parliament a Separation Plan that provides for the identification of civilian facilities and their being voluntarily placed under IAEA safeguards.

Action against National TV channels

†*77. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the so called National TV channels telecst obscene scenes repeatedly in the name of news in order to enhance Television Rating Programme (TRP);

(b) if so, whether in order to check it, Government would constitute any commission which can take stringent action against such TV channels; and

(c) the action taken by the Press Council of India against these channels during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The Government is aware of the fact that some of the National TV channels do telecast obscene scenes in the name of news.

(b) The Central Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 to look into the violation of the Programme Code and Advertising Code. The Committee either *suo-motu* or on receipt of complaint, examines cases of violation of the Code. Show cause notices are issued in the first instance to TV channels for telecasting objectionable programme/advertisements in violation of the Codes. Futher actienis is taken as per rules. Government is considering a comprehensive legislation including the issue of content regulation after having due consultation with the stakeholders.

†Originai notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Press Council of India does not adjudicate complaints against Electronic Media (TV channels) as its domain extends only over Print Media.

Political solution for Sri Lanka

*78. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Secretary visited Sri Lanka and handed over a letter from Prime Minister to the president of Sri Lanka and reiterated India's support for a political solution;

(b) if so, whether India has been pushing the Government of Sri Lanka to come out with a solution devolution package acceptable to all sections of society, particularly the Tamils;

(c) if so, what was the outcome of the discussions; and

(d) to what extent Sri Lanka has responded to India's proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Foreign Secretary visited Sri lanka from July 3-4,2006 and conveyed a message from our Prime Minister to the Sri Lankan President reiterating India's support for a political solution.

(b) and (c) Government of India has emphasised to the Government of Sri Lanka the need to make all possible efforts to strengthen the ceasefire and to work towards an early revival of the political dialogue in order to move the peace process forward. India has consistently been in favour of a politically negotiated settlement of the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka and in this regard, Government has stressed the need for a devolution package acceptable to all sections of the Sri Lankan society.

(d) The Sri Lankan Government has conveyed that war is not an option and that it remained committed to a political solution to the ethnic issue.

Sale of surplus coal by captive coal producers

*79. SHRI KARNENOU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to permit sale of surplus coal by captive coal producers to other end-users;

(b) if so, by when the law would be enacted; and